

MINUTES

OF THE

Twenty-First Annual Session

OF THE

Warrior River Baptist Association,

HELD WITH

Macedonia Baptist Church,

BLOUNT CO., ALA.


September 18th and 19th, 1879.

OFFICERS :

ELD. G. B. WADE, Moderator, Walnut Grove, Etowah Co., Ala.

W. Y. ADAMS, Gum Spring, Blount Co., Ala.

JOHN D. HENDRICKS, Wooten, Blount Co., Ala.



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MINUTES.

MACEDONIA BAPTIST CHURCH, }
Blount County, Ala., Sept. 18, 1879. }

The Warrior River Baptist Association met with the church above named at 11 o'clock a. m.

The introductory sermon was preached by Elder J. Y. Bain, from Mathew 21st, 42d and 43d. After recess for one hour, met in the house. The body was called to order by the former Moderator, Elder P. M. Musgrove. Prayer by the Moderator. Letters from the various churches were read, and names of messengers enrolled. Elected Elder G. B. Wade Moderator, W. Y. Adams Clerk, and John D. Hendricks Treasurer.

Roswell Creek, Mount Carmel, Gum Spring, Mount Vernon, Flint Creek and Antioch presented letters, asking membership in the body. They were received, and the right hand of fellowship, in behalf of the body, was extended by the Moderator to the messengers. Read constitution and rules of decorum. Invited James Fields, H. C. Reed and P. R. Tennyson, visiting ministers, to seats. Welcomed Brethren Ira R. Foster and O. H. Alford, correspondents from Mt. Carmet Association.

Appointed committees as follows: On Missions—Elders P. M. Musgrove, H. W. Watson and J. Y. Bain; on Sabbath-schools—T. B. Goings, R. Steele and W. M. Cole; on Temperance—H. H. Mitchell, J. C. Kimbrough, Elder P. J. Ellis; on State of Religion—Elder G. L. Brindley, J. J. Cook and A. F. Whitley; on Finance—W. M. Cole, R. Saye and W. L. Ellison; on Documents—W. J. Dunn, James Moon and C. Buckner; on Devotion—J. Breasseal, D. Hyatt, and delegates of Macedonia Church.

Located union meetings as follows : First District—Cullman, Friday before the fourth Sabbath in July, 1880. Second District.—Walnut Grove, Friday before the 4th Sabbath in August, 1880

Appointed Correspondents to Sulphur Springs.—Elders H. W. Watson, P. J. Ellis and Brethren W. J. Walker and Monroe McAnnally ; to Mr. Carmel, (Saturday before second Sabbath in September, 1880, with Chestnut Oak Grove Church, fifteen miles North of Guntersville)—Elders J. Y. Bain, H. W. Watson, P. M. Musgrove, G. B. Wade, James Fields and Brother J. C. Hughes ; to Canaan—Elders P. M. Musgrove, G. B. Wade and Brethren W. M. Cole, W. Y. Adams and H. H. Mitchell ; to Muscle Shoals—Elders G. L. Brindley and H. W. Watson.

Appointed delegates to the Alabama Baptist State Convention—viz : Elders H. W. Watson, G. L. Brindley and P. M. Musgrove. The State Mission Board was represented by Elder H. W. Watson. The circular letter was read by Elder P. M. Musgrove, the writer being absent. It was adopted and publication ordered. Adjourned to meet at 8½ o'clock Saturday morning.

Saturday Morning : Met pursuant to adjournment. Prayer by Elder James Fields. Roll call. Read and approved minutes of yesterday. On motion speeches were limited to fifteen minutes.

Report on missions read and adopted. (See appendix A.) Read and adopted report on Documents (B) and Temperance (C.) Recess for preaching. Preaching by Elders H. W. Watson and J. Y. Bain. Resumed business at 2 o'clock p. m.

Report on Sabbath-schools (D) and State of Religion (E) and Finance (F) received and adopted.

Elected Elder G. B. Wade to preach introductory sermon, Elder T. M. Musgrove to preach missionary sermon, and Brother W. Y. Adams to write circular.

Changed time of meeting to Friday before second Sabbath in October of each year. Executive Committee—John D. Hendricks, A. J. Phillips, E. K. Head, H. H. Mitchell and W. H. Musgrove.

Appointed next session of association to meet with White Plain Church Friday before the second Sabbath in October, 1880.

The following report of Executive Committee was adopted : Your committee beg leave to report that Elder H. W. Watson has served us faithfully. We have paid him forty-seven dollars. There is yet due and unpaid thirty-eight and 50-100 dollars, well secured by subscription.

JNO. D. HENDRICKS, Treas.

A committee consisting of the following Brethren: H. H. Mitchell, W. L. Ellison and R. Steele was appointed to look after aged and infirm ministers in our bounds, to receive contributions in their behalf, to disburse the same in proportion to their necessities, and

report to next session of association. Some eight or ten dollars was immediately paid over to the committee.

The Clerk was directed to have a sufficient number of minutes printed and to dispose of the balance of funds, as he may choose.

Appointed the following Brethren as Trustees of Mulberry College, viz: P. M. Musgrove, D. L. James, W. Y. Adams, J. H. Berrier, E. G. Musgrove, J. W. Gamble, J. M. LeGrand and C. A. Burns.

Resolved, That we most cheerfully recommend the *Alabama Baptist* to every Baptist family as being sound and every way worthy of patronage, also "*Kind Words*" for our Sabbath-schools.

Resolved, That we tender our thanks to the Brethren, Sisters and friends around Macedonia for their hospitality to us during the present session.

Adjourned to meet at time and place above named.

G. B. WADE, Moderator.

W. Y. ADAMS, Clerk.

APPENDICES.

MISSIONS (A.)—The committee on missions beg leave to call attention to report on missions of last year.

Elder H. W. Watson has been engaged a part of the year among the churches and destitute points, doing faithful work. There are certain points in our bounds that need cultivation. We would call special attention to Guntersville, Summit, Brooksville, Bangor and Cullman. We suggest the following plan for raising funds for missionary purposes: Let farmers devote the proceeds of a small piece of ground to the cause, others a portion of their income, so that each member will feel in duty bound to contribute. We recommend the appointment of an Executive Committee to take charge of mission work.

Respectfully submitted,

P. M. MUSGROVE, Chairman.

DOCUMENTS (B.)—The Committee on Documents beg leave to report that on examination of the various church letters, they find nothing of special importance, except the church at White Plain, petitions the body for the next session of the association.

Respectfully submitted,

W. J. DUNN, Chairman.

TEMPERANCE (C.)—Your Committee on Temperance rejoice to say that the temperance cause is gaining ground in the Baptist family. It has many zealous advocates in other denominations, also in

the world. Yet there are a few Baptists, who still cling to their "Delila," saying a little will not hurt, forgetting the example they are setting before the world. Dear brethren, let us make one united effort in the strength of Israel's God, to put the demon, intemperance, entirely from our midst. In so doing we will have the approval of high Heaven; and future generations will rise up and call us blessed. Therefore we suggest that you advise the several churches to endeavor to infuse into their membership a disposition to teetotalism. And such as will continue to make, sell or visit drum shops, after the first and second admonition, to deal with them as common drunkards.

Respectfully submitted,

H. H. MITCHELL, Chairman.

SABBATH SCHOOLS (D.)—Your committee on Sabbath-schools beg leave to report that from the church letters we find the Sabbath-school cause a little in advance of what it was last year, but not by any means what it ought to be. We do hope that the churches who have not Sabbath-schools, will organize and report prosperous schools at our next association. Youth is the time, and the Sabbath-school the place, to make impressions that time cannot efface, and eternity alone can fully develop.

May God bless the Sabbath school enterprise in our midst the ensuing year.

Respectfully submitted,

T. B. GOINGS, Chairman.

STATE OF RELIGION (E.)—Your committee on State of Religion ask to report that from information the cause of our blessed Master is more prosperous than last year.

Many of our churches have enjoyed gracious revivals of religion. Many precious souls have found Christ in the free pardon of their sins. Young men's prayer meetings have been established in many of our churches. We hope the other churches will follow their example.

Brethren, let us be more consecrated to this service.

Respectfully submitted,

G. L. BRINDLEY, Chairman.

CIRCULAR LETTER.

THE SUPPORT OF THE MINISTRY.

Dear Brethren : According to previous appointment, I proceed to pen a few lines upon the above named subject. An arrangement has been made by the Lord Jehovah, for the support of the ministers of religion under every dispensation He has given to man. Under the law, the priest was to have one tenth of what was made by the laity. That this was His order no one can doubt who reads the law upon

the subject. And under the gospel dispensation it is equally clear. The Savior says: "The workman is "worthy of his meat," and again "The laborer is worthy of his hire, and the Apostle Paul in his first letter to Corinthians has forever settled that question, when he declared that "even so hath the Lord" ordained that they which preach the gospel should live of the gospel. Read the ninth chapter. Again Paul says : Gal. ⁴6 and 6. "Let him that is taught "in the word, communicate to him that teacheth in all good things. There is not a passage of Scripture properly interpreted that in the least militates against the full support of God's ministers. But the question will arise, How is this to be done? A suggestion or two may be of some profit. Let each minister refuse to accept a call from any church until the church and he have agreed upon the amount of his salary, and secured the payment of the same. Let each church when she calls a minister to attend her as pastor confer with him, and ascertain what amount he can afford to attend the church for. Let the amount agreed upon be paid quarterly or as may be agreed to, so that the minister may be receiving his pay as he is performing the service. In thus doing you will not wrong your minister out of the just compensation due him. Brethren, this is a debt you owe to God, and I fear there will be a large account come up against many churches in the day of reckoning for failing to pay God's ministers what is their just right, and what is due them, and what you owe them, and what you, or at least some of you, are unjustly withholding from them. Brethren, let us bestir ourselves, look around us, and see if we are neglecting a plain command of our Lord Jesus Christ, a well established order in his government. I must confess that I have read the New Testament to no account if Baptists all over this country are not committing a terrible sin on this subject. There is one formidable drawback to carrying out the suggestions above; that is there are so many men in the ministry who are willing to try to preach, just for the sake of being pastor of a church, and getting to baptize some one. They seem to think it honor enough to be called to preach to a church, and do not expect any pay and generally speaking, do not deserve any. But the minister who makes his calling a business; and studies to show himself approved unto God a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth, should be paid, ought to be paid for his services, and if he is not paid a reasonable compensation for his services he ought to go where his services are appreciated. No minister who has ability to preach ought to be expected, or allowed by the churches to give his time and talent without reasonable compensation. Men of no other calling are expected to do so. Doctors and lawyers do not work for nothing. Every one who employs a doctor or a lawyer makes no other calculation but to pay him. Why then expect men who are engaged in the highest and holiest calling on earth, and whose message is of the most importance to man of any

other, and whose subject matter requires the most intent thought, and the purest of morals, and a preparation of heart which no other calling does necessarily, I say why expect such men to devote their time and talents for nothing? God does not require it, and if they do, such a minister ought not to allow it. Brethren, let us wake up, and do our whole duty on this subject, and God will open the windows of heaven and pour us out a blessing. May God grant it. Amen.

W. H. MUSGROVE.

ORDAINED MINISTERS.

NAMES.	POST-OFFICES.	COUNTY.
James Fields	Brooksville	Blount County.
E. P. Mitchell . . .	Murphrees Valley . .	"
J. M. Steward . . .	Summit.	"
W. C. Reed	"	"
P. R. Tennyson . .	"	"
V. H. Dean	Walnut Grove. . . .	Etawah County.
G. B. Wade	"	"
J. M. Thomas . . .	Cullman.	Cullman County.
P. M. Musgrove . . .	"	"
J. Y. Bain	Guntersville	Marshall County.
A. DORMAN.	BALM.	BLOUNT COUNTY.

LICENTIATES.

T. B. Going	Walnut Grove. . . .	Etawah County.
W. M. Cole.	Little Warrior. . . .	Blount County.
J. C. Buckner. . . .	Murphrees Valley . .	"
John Cox.	Blount Springs . . .	"
W. Y. Adams. . . .	Gum Spring	"
W. H. Musgrove . .	Cullman	Cullman County.

FINANCE REPORT (F.)

FIRST DISTRICT.		SECOND DISTRICT.	
Mount Tabor.	\$ 1 50	Rock Spring	\$ 1 15
White Plains	1 40	Macedonia.	2 20
Cullman.	1 00	Mt. High	1 15
Roswell Creek	1 00	Clear Spring	80
Blountville.	50	Blue Sprng.	50
Austins Creek	1 25	Harmony.	1 60
Gum Spring	50	Bristoes Creek.	1 25
Flint Creek.	1 50	Friendship.	1 20
Antioch	2 00	Liberty.	2 40
Carried forward.	10 65	Mount Pleasant.	1 05
		Walnut Grove.	1 00
		Mount Carmel.	85
		Mount Vernon	50
			15 65
		Brought forward.	10 65
		Total	\$26 30
		W. M. COLE, Chairman.	

John D. Hendricks in account as Treasurer :

To cash received for minutes.	\$26 30
To " " " missionary.	47 00
Cr.	
By cash to W. Y. Adams, Clerk	\$26 30
By cash to H. W. Watson, Missionary.	47 00

STATISTICAL TABLE.

CHURCHES.	PASTORS.	CLERKS.	POST OFFICE OF CLERKS.	NAMES OF MESSENGERS.	Sub. of Meeting.	Baptized.	Rec'd by Letter.	Restored.	Dis'd by Letter.	Excluded.	Deceased.	Total.
FIRST DISTRICT.												
Mt. Tabor.....	P. J. Ellis.....	W. Y. Adams.....	Gum Spring.....	W. Y. Adams.....	3	1	2				43	43
White Plains.....	P. J. Ellis.....	W. D. Walker.....	Blount Spring.....	P. M. Musgrove and H. W. Watson.....	1	1	2				49	49
Callman.....	P. M. Musgrove.....	H. W. Watson, pro tem.....	Callman.....	Isaac Barnett, W. W. Kelsoe and L. L. Herton.....	1	2					8	8
Boswell Creek.....	P. R. Tennyson.....	W. W. Kelsoe.....	Summit.....	John C. Hughes.....	4	6					11	11
Blountsville.....	H. W. Watson.....	C. Turner.....	Blountsville.....	P. J. Ellis, W. B. Roberts and E. K. Head.....	2	2					19	19
Austin Creek.....	P. J. Ellis.....	H. W. Head.....	Blountsville.....	H. J. Albrightain.....	2	2					12	12
Gum Spring.....	P. R. Tennyson.....	J. A. Albrightain.....	Callman.....									
Flint Creek.....	Wm. Smith.....	J. B. Pope.....	Callman.....	G. L. Brindley, W. J. Dunn and James Pope.....	1	2					35	35
Antioch.....	H. W. Watson.....	J. P. Smith.....	Woten.....	J. W. Fate, J. D. Hendricks and J. T. Campbell.....	2	2					49	49
SECOND DIST.												
Rock Spring.....	W. C. Reed.....	W. M. Lyons.....	Guntersville.....	W. H. Lyons, F. M. Hatley and W. C. Goodwin.....	2	1	1	18			64	64
Macedonia.....	J. Y. Bain.....	A. J. McCarty.....	Guntersville.....	S. Nixon, J. W. Roberts, J. Lowery, N. C. Nicholson.....	4	4					72	72
Mt. High.....	J. M. Thomas.....	W. C. Ward.....	Guntersville.....	W. C. Ward and J. S. Johnson.....	1	9	9	2	5	2	261	261
Clear Spring.....	J. Y. Bain.....	J. H. Moon.....	Warrenton.....	J. Y. Bain and James Moon.....	22	8	2				12	12
Blue Spring.....	H. W. Watson.....	J. C. Kimbrough.....	Brooksville.....	B. Thacker and J. C. Kimbrough.....	1	1	1				1	1
Harmony.....	A. D. Dorman.....	W. L. Ellison.....	Walnut Grove.....	W. L. Ellison, R. Saye and A. F. Whitley.....	1	9	5	1	7	1	179	179
Bristoe's Creek.....	A. Dorman & G. B. Wade.....	J. R. Lackey.....	Anson.....	R. Steele, J. S. Bressant and J. M. Nelson.....	3	15	6	1	1		40	40
Friendship.....	Jas. Fields.....	J. L. Kock.....	Friendship.....	T. S. Cartee, J. J. Cook and L. Teal.....	1	2	2	1			2	2
Liberty.....	G. B. Wade.....	F. T. Stephens.....	Cheepulitepec.....	W. M. Cole, H. H. Mitchell and David Hyatt.....	2	1	13				1	1
Mt. Pleasant.....	G. B. Wade.....	T. K. McDonald.....	Wannville.....	T. K. McDonald and J. F. Greer.....	2	3	7				1	1
Walnut Grove.....	G. B. Wade.....	M. F. Cornelius.....	Walnut Grove.....	G. B. Wade, T. B. Goings and T. B. Brown.....	4	5	5				1	1
Mt. Carmel.....	T. S. Logan.....	E. A. Cornelius.....	Warrenton.....	J. C. Buckner, C. A. Cornelius, and L. Murphree.....	4	6	4				22	22
Mt. Vernon.....	H. C. Rush.....	J. Randal.....	Guntersville.....	B. E. Scott.....	4	4					9	9



